Scott. II-27—4b,004—21-10-27.

Que (Edn) (1928) Department.

V 16 SERIES.

G.O. No. 207

DATED 18th Feb 1928

[Despatch Abstract.]

SUBJECT: Construction of elementary school buildings-Value of, Applicancy-Exemption from meeting half the cost-Declined.

ADVANCE COPY

LOCAL SELF GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT.

eived ..... 1927. Registered ...../1927.

SUBJECT

GOVERNMENT GRANTS

Village Communications, Rural-water supply and construction of school buildings- Contribution from Board's Funds - Inability - Exemption sought for-

GOVT. LOCAL SELF GOVT. 13 DEC 1927 ADMN.

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Enclosures:-
1 One only.

Ref.C.No. 704 /Sup'27.

Station:- P U T T U R. Dated the 13th Decr. 1927.

From

M. R. Ry. Molahalli Shiva Rao, Avl.,
President, Taluk Board, Puttur, S.Kanara.

To

The SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS,
Local Self Government Department,
Fort Saint George, Madras.
M A D R A S.

Through

The P R E S I D E N T,
District Board, South Kanara.

Sir,

I submit herewith a copy of the resolution of the Taluk Board in its meeting held on the 29th ultimo and request that in view of the extremely impecunious condition of this Board Government may be pleased to exempt this Board from the payment of any contribution from its funds towards the expenditure on works connected with the improvement of rural communications or rural water supply undertaken with the aid of special grants for the purpose from Provincial Funds and from having to bear any part of the cost of school buildings put up with the aid of provincial subsidies.

2. This Board has entirely to depend on an annual --- compassionate grant from Government which has for the present been fixed at Rs 10,650. In fixing this grant our Budget - has been subjected to a very close and searching scrutiny by the Inspector of Local Boards and Municipalities. All items of expenditure have been cut down to the rock bottom level and the grant fixed is just sufficient to balance the budget to the last pie. There is absolutely no margin --- therefrom funds could be scraped to make up the compulsory contribution in order to earn the Board's share of the --- provincial grants given for the improvement of rural communications and water supply. What has been done in the - past is that drastic cuts were effected in the normal ---- maintenance allotments for roads and the money so realised was given as contribution for new road and well works. Our Board has one hundred four miles (104) of roads and the -- maintenance allotments are being thus reduced for the last three or four successive years. The result is that the -- taluk board roads can be so called only by courtesy and -- their condition proclaims the miserable financial state of the Board itself. The roads in very many places run through forests, past hills and glades and the work of protecting them from being swept and scoured on by waters rushing from hill slopes is being postponed from year to year in anxious hope of improvement of finance. The hope has - however proved elusive in the past and conditions have --- become much worse on account of the annual drain on the -- provision made for their maintenance. Continuous starvation has reduced most of our roads to mere cart-tracks which often cart-men have to set right in places to pass safely over. In this deplorable state of affairs, the interest of public convenience and safety demand that the roads should no --- longer be neglected and that they should receive their due share of money. This can only be done by exempting our -- Board from having to pay the contributions prescribed.

3. The vast extent of this taluk which covers an area

an area of nearly a third of this district calls for the extension of communications on an extensive scale. There are a considerable number of villages which are not served by any road or even rough cart-tracks. People are making cart-tracks at their own cost and want the Board to take over their maintenance. This means extra recurring expenditure and quite apart from it the least help which the people deserve in such cases is to put the cart-tracks right so that carts may safely pass over -- laden with village produce. The improvement of such tracks constitutes one of the most important matters which the Board is bound to attend immediately and this can only be done with Provincial Subsidy. If Government are pleased to give money unconditionally be it however little, we can see that it is well spent in opening up communications and thereby supplying a long felt I am prepared, if Government are only pleased to promise encouragement, to send a programme of improvement of village communications on these lines to be worked out in future years.

4. The improvement of water supply in rural areas is another need in regard to which also my Board finds its position very helpless and hopeless. Numerous are the places where wells are badly wanted in order to save the people from the necessity to use the water of carry pools and pits or the contaminated water of stagnant pools in the beds of streams. Health propoganda carried on by the Health Department with the aid of magic lantern slides becomes a farce and an empty cry in the wilderness so long as the Board is unable to move its little finger to improve the present deplorable condition and provide -- good drinking water. Compelled by sheer force of having to meet this primary need, I was obliged to take up the work of sinking 13 wells out of the provincial subsidy given in 1925-1926, and Board's contribution being made up from the same source, viz., the maintenance allotment of roads. I have not been able to complete the work

I propose to do my very best by re-allotment of funds by --- further observing the recess. In my taluk there is bodi nos an outstanding need for more wells in Subramania, a famous --- piligrim centre which attracts a large concourse of piligrims ren for one week coming from all parts of the Presidency. Here are only two public wells there and the health department which is attending to the health, comfort and convenience of the piligrim hordes has to stand aghast year after year while the piligrims use the same river & water for washing, drinking and chatrot. If epidemics have not broken out in the past, it is purely providential and in spite of our neglect. The sinking of more wells there is a pressing need but the place with all its South Indian fame has to put up with our neglect and suffer because it is in the area of a woefully poor Board. The needs of large piligrim centres is a concern of not merely provincial but of national importance and I cannot too strongly press on the attention of Government the imperative necessity to allot funds for the purpose without counting on the empty purse of the Board.

5. A third need which is insistent and none the less --- important is the provision of decent and suitable school houses. New schools are being opened out of Provincial Subsidyes in - all centres with a population of 500 and above. The housing these schools is a matter which has been causing me the keenest anxiety. More than half the number of these schools are ---- conducted in places which are ill adapted for the purpose. The accommodation provided is most inadequate and unsuitable. If I only bring to my mind how the village innocents are put to hardships for the five hours a day for full five days in a week for picking up the three R's, I feel that we are not treating them as little children have a right to be treated by the public authorityes. I cannot forgive myself unless and until every school is provided with a decent building. I wrote to the Director of Public Instruction inviting his attention this pitiable state of affairs and he was pleased to direct a building programme may be sent up. But which programme

will serve any earthly use so long as there is no money here to provide for the inevitable half contribution? Some savings are now made on account of the employment of a number of untrained teachers. Even their number is dwindling fast now. The accumulations from this source are now being spent on a few buildings which have been sanctioned and for which applications have been sent for the usual half grant. Probably before the year closes, I shall have nearly run through the savings of the present past in this way. The future looks very gloomy and I appeal to Government not to respond/our cry of distress and give us money to cover the full cost of buildings

I am aware that the Provincial Exchequer is not inexhaustible and that there are numerous and growing demands on it. I am whipping into as much activity as is possible to contribute their mite for school buildings. I have been able to get very encouraging response in spite of the abject poverty of the people in this interior taluk but even all the little of money that I am able to scrape out of the people does not go far in making up the half contribution. I wish I had an opportunity of showing what efforts have been made by me in this direction if at least to convince the Government that if I now cry for help, it is not as is often the case, that begging is the easiest and cheapest course to follow. I have gone and am doing my utmost to stimulate local financial help and I seek Government aid in the full consciousness conciousness that I fully deserve what I desire.

7. In conclusion, I appeal to Government to grant/ give me the money to find the half contributions in the cases referred to above.

Your most obedient servant,

President,
Puttur Taluk Board

K.S/15-12.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Meeting of Puttur Taluk Board, held at Subramania, dated the 29th November 1927 at 3.P.M.

Present:-

1. M. Shiva Rao. -- -- -- President.
2. N. S. Krishna Rao, -- -- Vice President.
3. H. Ganapathi Rao.
4. B.Mangesha Rao.
5. V. Lakshminath Swamji.
6. M. [illegible]
7. M. Janardhana Bhat.
8. S. Yellamma.
9. K. Ramanna Rai.
10. K. Poovani Heggde.
11. P. Ramachandra Bamninthaya
12. Y. Mammikunhi Saheb.

Read the following papers:-

* *

No.314/1927-28.

Office note urging the necessity of addressing Government with a request to exempt this Taluk Board -- from payment of half cost on the construction of school buildings and of contribution/ from Board's funds in the case of other Government grants

RESOLUTION.

Government will be addressed.

* * *

/True extract/

President,
Puttur Taluk Board.

K.S/15-12.

L.S.G Department.

From the P.T.B., Puttur, No.707, dated 13-12-27.

Subject :- Village roads and water supply - Improvement - Construction of school buildings - Contribution from Taluk Board funds - Exemption.

The Taluk Board requests ---

(1) ** ** ** **

and (2) exemption from the payment of half the cost of the elementary school buildings to be put up with the aid of Provincial grants.

** ** ** **

** ** ** **

Item 2 ~~xx~~ above - Request for exemption from the payment of half cost of elementary schoo buildings to be put up with the aid of provincial grants.

This request is for the consideration of the Law and Education Department. and may be transferred to that department.

~~Issue draft and~~ send extract.

C.V.R
12/1/28

T.B.R 16/1

M.P.S.J
12/1/28

H.R.U
17/1/28

C.B.C
18/1/28

Law Clerk Jno

The Taluk Board, Uppinangadi requests that it should not be

required to meet any portion of the cost of constructing buildings for elementary schools. If this is acceded to, Govt will have to meet the whole cost. The present policy of the Govt is to sanction grants for the construction of school buildings only to those local bodies which are prepared to meet not less than the cost from its own funds. The Taluk Board's request cannot therefore be complied with.

Vide para 1 of G.O. 1622 16.9.25.

(Z) 2994.

SECRETARIAT TOGETHER ... 27 JAN 1928 ... GOVERNMENT ASST SECRETARY

2. A draft order is submitted for approval. It may be sent to the L.S.G. dept. for perusal before issue.

DA 25.1.28.

25/1

L.S.G. (4)

-W 263 G1 27.1.28

L.S.G. (4)

May be accepted

M 27.1.28

Leg no 2994-1A/28-1 Edn dt 30.1.28

Law (Edn)

Law concerned

ASSISTANT SECY TO GOVT. ... 30 JAN 1928 ... EDUCATION DEPT.

May issue

30.1.28

Secrt. II-5 (a)—38,004—26-10-27. (6)

	Date.	Initials.
When received for Fair-copying.		
When copied		
When examined		
When signed		
When despatched		

Law (Gen.) DEPARTMENT.

Subsidy

Construction of elementary school buildings — Taluk Board, Uppinangady — Exemption from meeting half the cost — Declined

READ AGAIN G.O. No. ....., dated 192

" " " " ..... " 192

READ ALSO :—

C. No. 2631 From the ....., No. ....., dated 192

" " ..... " " ..... " 192

" " ..... " " ..... " 192

ORDER.

Mis.

No. 207, dated 1/2/1928.

The Taluk Board, Uppinangady, requests that it may be exempted from meeting one half of the cost of construction elementary school buildings. The ~~general~~ policy of the Govt is to sanction subsidies for the construction of school buildings only to such of the local bodies as are prepared to meet not less than half the cost of the schemes from their own funds. The Govt see no reason to depart from this policy in Kepatcha [illegible] are therefore unable to accede to the request of the taluk board

To

The D.T.B., Uppinangady (with ref to his letter No. 707/Bdp, dated 8/12/27)

The D.P.I.